WIZARD
NO.
1/2
DARKCHYLDE
DARKCHYLDE™
REDEMPTION
WIZARD

Certificate of Authenticity

Dynamic Forces, Inc. has issued this certificate to authenticate this copy of
"DARKCHYLDE* REDEMPTION #1/2"
DYNAMIC FORCES EXCLUSIVE
AUTHENTIC BLUE FOIL COVER
as one of a specially limited series of one thousand copies.

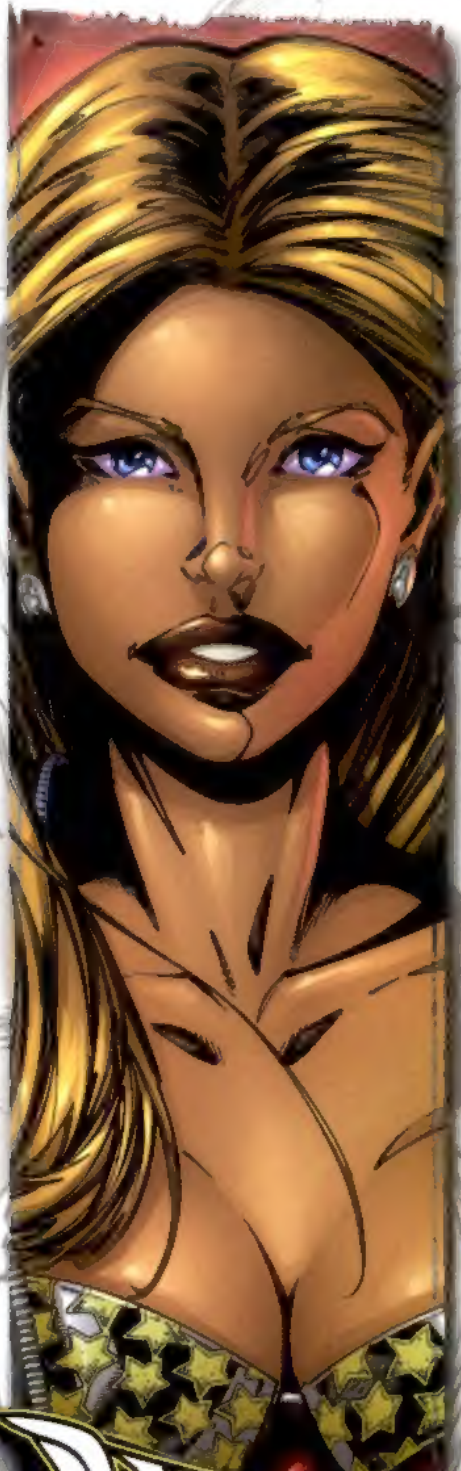
Nicola Scott
Authorized Signature

Certificate Number: 0397

DF DYNAMIC FORCES ™

155 9th Ave., Suite E
Runnemede, NJ 08078

*Darkchylde ™ and © 2001 by Randy Queen and Darkchylde Entertainment. All rights reserved. The accompanying comic book has been produced exclusively by Darkchylde Entertainment for Dynamic Forces, Inc. The Dynamic Forces logo is a trademark and copyright of Dynamic Forces, Inc. 2001. All rights reserved.



DARKCHYLDE ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

Creator, Story and Art

RANDY QUEEN

Inks

SEAN PARSONS, MR. BIG

Colors

JIMMY YU WITH BRETT EVANS

Lettering

STEVE DUTROW

Editor-In-Chief/Pubilisher

SARAH OATES

FOR WIZARD ENTERTAINMENT

GAREB S. SHAMUS CHAIRMAN/CEO

FRED PIERCE PRESIDENT/COO

PATRICK McCALLUM VP/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

MARIA CAPELLO PROMOTIONS MANAGER

DARREN SANCHEZ PRODUCTION DIRECTOR

STEVE BLACKWELL CREATIVE DIRECTOR

JAMES A. WALKER, MIKE BENCIC DESIGN

DARKCHYLDE REDEMPTION

WIZARD NO. 1/2

Darkchylde: Redemption #1/2, published by, Randy Queen and Darkchylde Entertainment, and Gareb Shamus Enterprises, Inc. DBA Wizard Entertainment, 151 Wells Ave., Congers, NY 10920. Darkchylde and Dreams of Darkchylde are ™ and © 2000 Randy Queen and Darkchylde Entertainment. All rights reserved. Any similarities to persons living or dead is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Wizard Entertainment and Randy Queen and Darkchylde Entertainment. All Rights Reserved. Wizard and the Wizard logotype are registered trademarks of Wizard Entertainment. Printed in Canada.

SLOW NIGHT?!
WHAUGHH!
WHATTHEHELLAREYOU?!

I'M YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE, REDNECK!
I NEED TO KNOW WHERE THAT LAST TRAIN THAT LEFT OUT OF HERE WAS HEADING. THE ONE WITH THE CIRCUS FREAKS!
YOU MEAN THE CARNIVAL PEOPLE?
DON'T YOU MINCE WORDS WITH ME, HILLBILLY! I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR GAMES!!
TELL ME WHERE THAT TRAIN LEFT OFF TO...
...OR FEEL THE RAGE OF MY DEATH RATTLE!
AND TRUST ME, IT'S PAIN-FUL.

YOU'LL...
...YOU'LL LEAVE ME ALONE IF I TELL YOU?
SALEM RR
ONLY IF YOU DO IT QUICK. MY PATIENCE HAS A VERY LOW THRESHOLD, UNDERSTAND?
THAT TRAIN LEFT OUT OF HERE FOR MEMPHIS...
...MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.
THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP, STEPHEN!...
...NOW YOU DIE!
BUT YOU SAID YOU'D..
ZZAPTTK!

STUPID INBRED IDIOT!
DON'T YOU KNOW TO NEVER TRUST A GUY THAT LOOKS THE WAY I DO?!
heh heh... ehehe... ehem... THAT WAS GOOD, BABY BOO. YOU REALLY PUNCHED HIS TIME CARD, DIDN'T YA?!
YOU FRIED HIS MISERABLE BUTT. heh heh... DID HIM A FAVOR...
IT WAS A DEAD END JOB ANYWAY, ALL RIGHT? YOU DO GET THE JOKE, RIGHT, BABE? 'DEAD' END? I GOT IT.
HOW ARE WE GOING TO CATCH UP TO THE LITTLE MINKIE NOW?!
YOU EVER HITCHED A RIDE ON A FAST MOVING TRAIN?!
UHHHHMM... NO.
ME NEITHER.
OUGHTA BE INTERESTING.

MEMPHIS.
IT'S BEEN EXACTLY 67 DAYS SINCE I FOUND LITTLE BILLY CAIN'S DEAD BODY ON THAT CAROUSEL.
67 DAYS SINCE I LEFT SALEM, AND EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED THERE BEHIND.
67 DAYS HAVE PASSED, BUT I'M NOT 67 DAYS CLOSER TO ANY ANSWERS.
ANSWERS THAT WOULD HAVE HOPEFULLY REVEALED BILLY'S KILLER. ADDITION TO WHY THEY SEEM TO KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT ME.
A NOTE WAS LEFT ON HIS BODY, PINNED TO HIS BODY... A NOTE THAT READ: "I KNOW WHO YOU ARE. I KNOW WHAT YOU ARE. I KNOW HOW YOU CAME TO BE."
"...AND IF YOU CAN CATCH ME, SO WILL YOU."
SO, FOR THE LAST TWO MONTHS I'VE BEEN TRAVELING THE STATES HEADED WEST WITH JEREMY SPENCER'S CARNIVAL OF FOOLS SEEKING SOME SORT OF RESOLUTION BOTH FOR MYSELF AND FOR BILLY CAIN.
MY HOME HAS BEEN FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES, THIS LITTLE CARNIVAL WAGON. COZY. YES. COMFORTABLE. NO.
FRIENDS, LIKE ALWAYS, HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT FOR ME TO MAKE.
JEREMY HIMSELF, THE CARNIVAL LEADER, HAS BEEN EVASIVE, GUARDED.
BUT ANDREW AND PIPER HAVE DECIDED TO COME ALONG, SO I GUESS, I STILL HAVE THEM IN MY CHEERING SECTION.
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I'M THANKFUL FOR THAT.

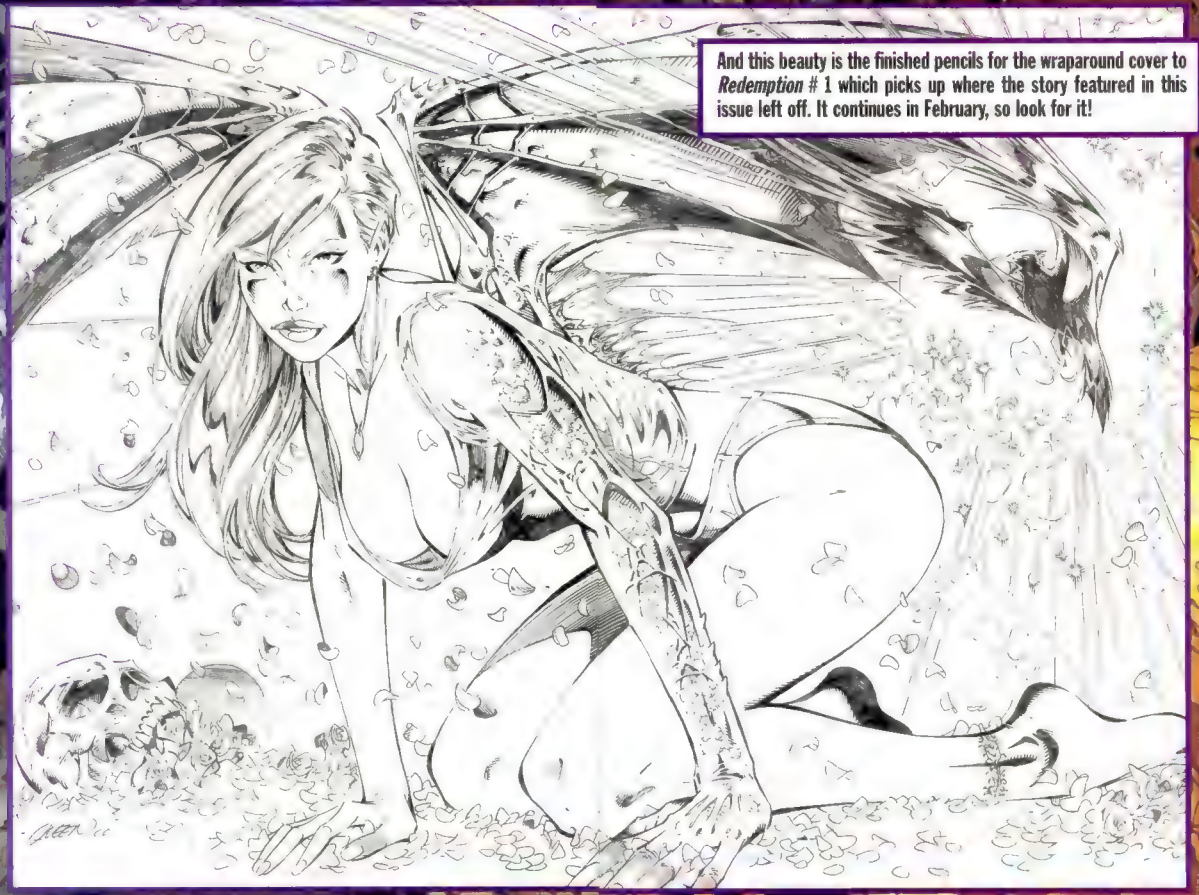
YESTERDAY, LIKE MOST OF THE ONES BEFORE, WAS FAIRLY UNEVENTFUL.
AFTER ALL, THERE'S ONLY SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO WANDER THE SAME GROUNDS.
ONLY SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS YOU CAN PLAY THE SAME GAMES, THE OUTCOME OF WHICH IS NEVER QUITE AS VARIED.
IT'S PRETTY SIMPLE.
YOU'RE EITHER A WINNER...
YOU LOSE
...OR YOU'RE A LOSER.

OF COURSE. THERE'S NO ONE REALLY WATCHING, IS THERE?
AND THIS LITTLE GIRL COULD USE A SMILE.
YOU KNOW, I'VE BEEN WINNING ALL DAY...
...AND I JUST DON'T HAVE ROOM LEFT FOR ANYMORE PRIZES, SO WHY DON'T YOU GIVE THIS LITTLE FELLA A GOOD HOME?
REALLY? FOR ME?
WELL, I SAW YOU THERE LOOKING SO CUTE, AND SINCE YOU EVEN HAVE THE SAME EARRINGS I DO, I FIGURED I'D HOOK YOU UP. JUST PROMISE TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM.
OH, I PROMISE! THANKYOU THANKYOU!
IT WAS NICE TO MAKE HER SMILE. IT MADE ME FEEL GOOD. MADE MY DAY, ACTUALLY.

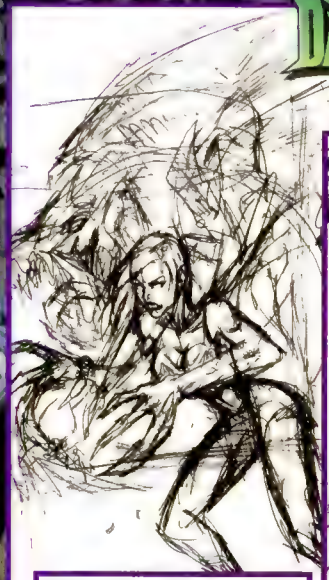
DARKCHYLDE
REDEMPTION

Check out this sketchbook told in the words of Darkchylde creator, Randy Queen.

This is an abandoned shot of Ariel that was to have been included in the last *Darkchylde Swimsuit Illustrated.* I'm not sure why it was abandoned other than I guess I must've came up with something that was more to my liking. I still dig this one, though, and may end up retooling it for a regular cover.

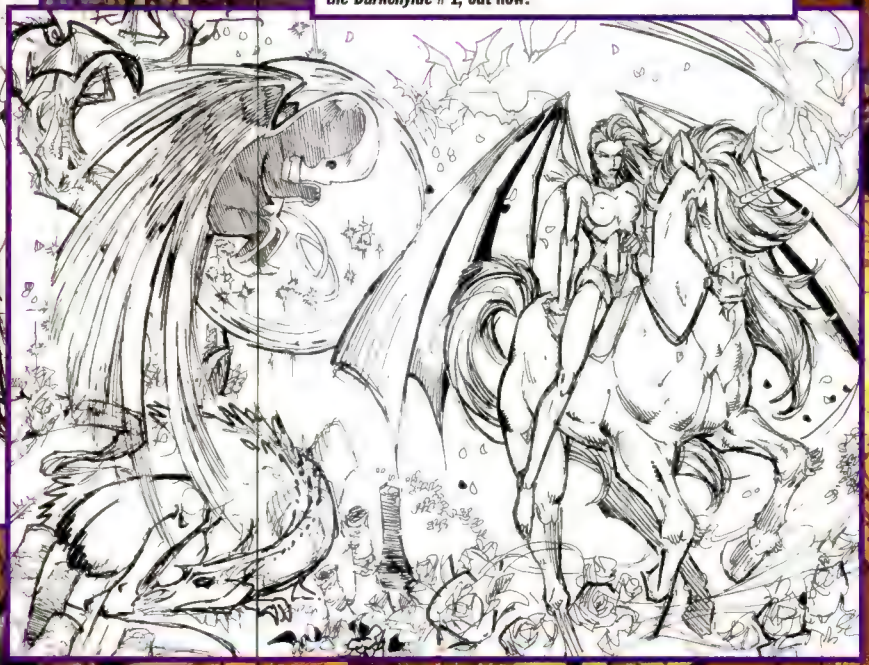


And this beauty is the finished pencils for the wraparound cover to *Redemption* # 1 which picks up where the story featured in this issue left off. It continues in February, so look for it!

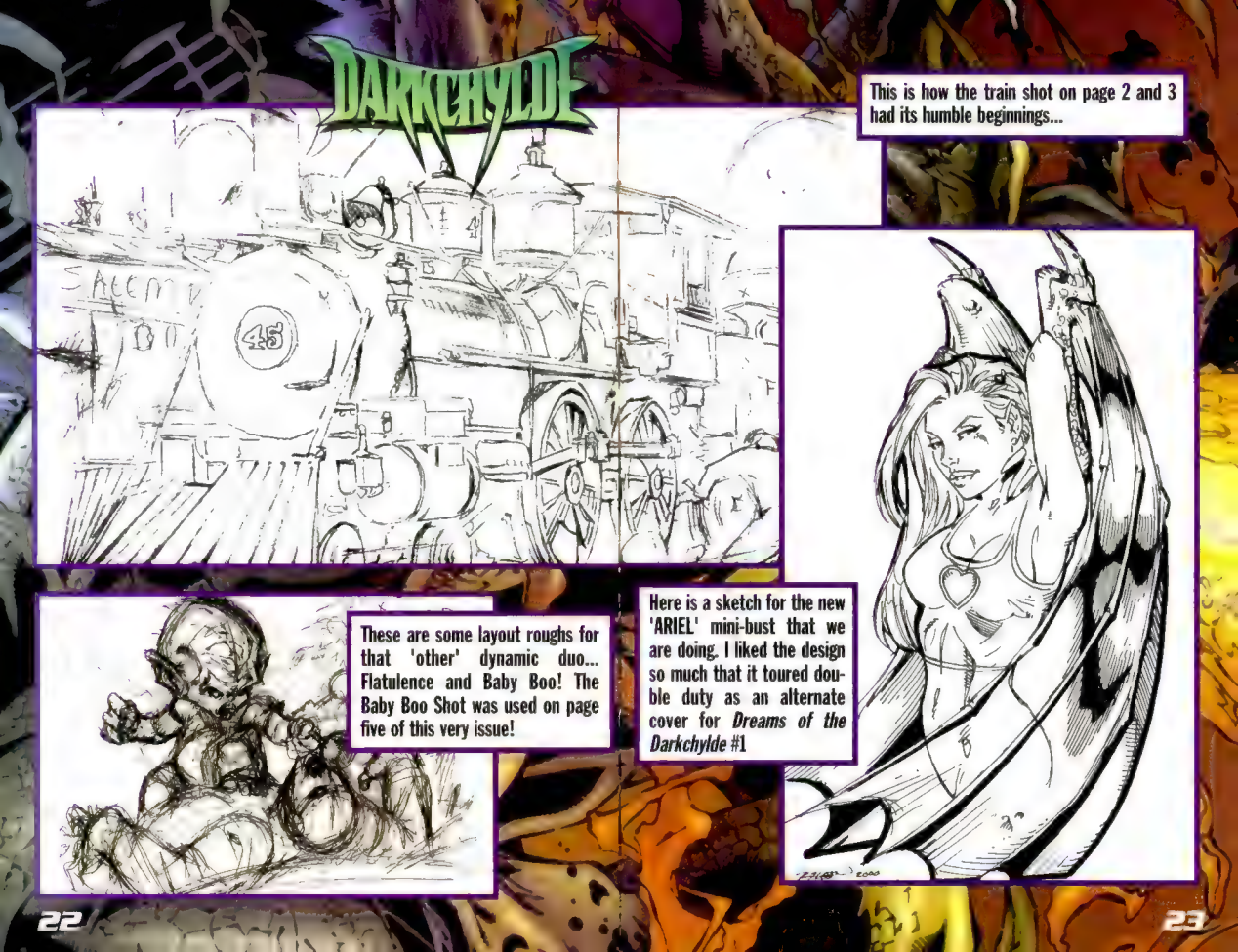


This was a cover idea I was trying to put together, but I didn't quite know where to go with it. Sometimes that happens, but I did like the movement suggested by Ariel's "monster hands." I ditched the creature in the background and the revised version ended up finally being the cover the very rare Darkchylde "Battlebook."

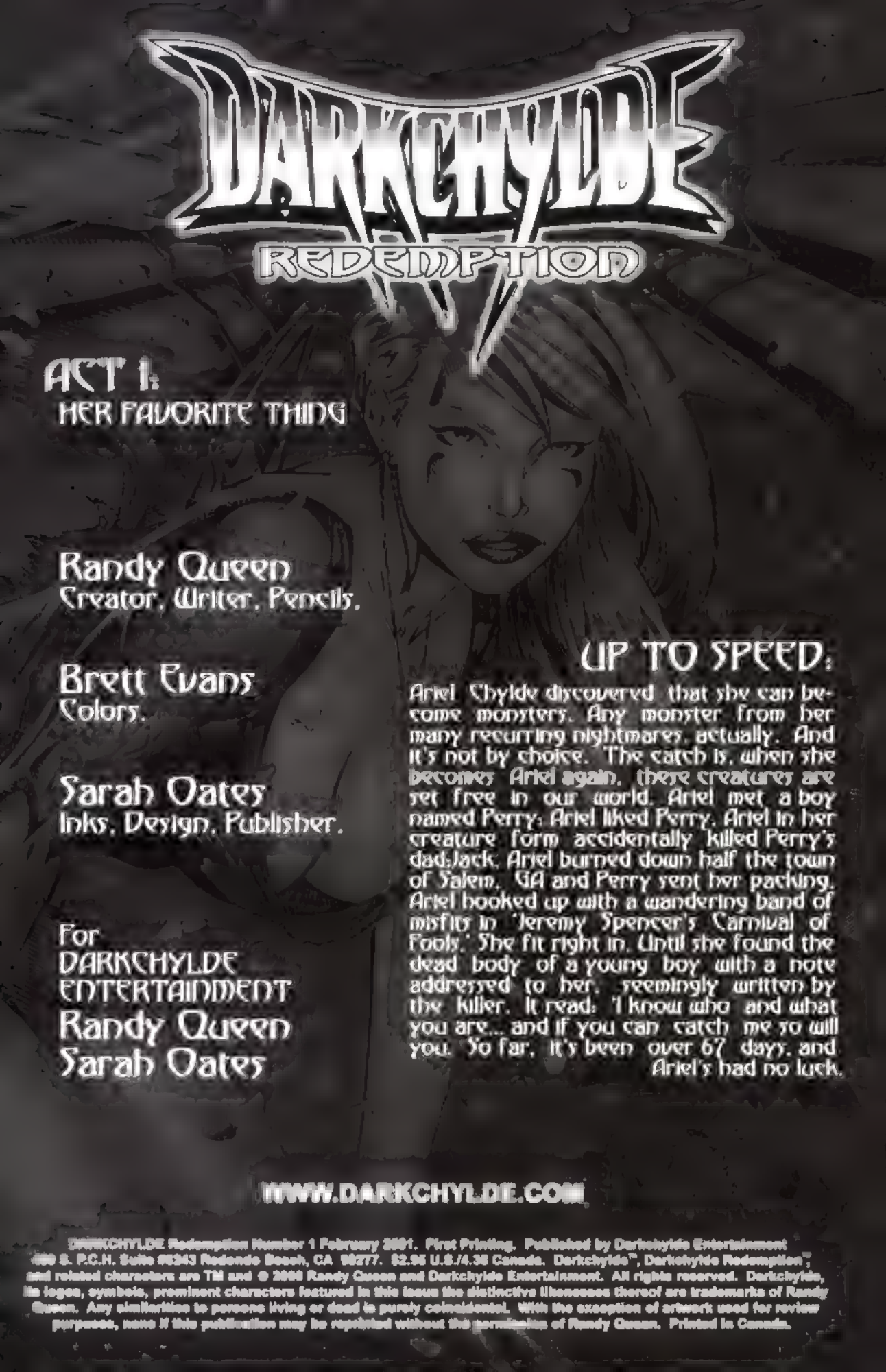
This is the sketch layout for my wraparound cover to *Dreams of the Darkchylde* # 1, out now!



This cover rough in its finished form, will end up being the *Dreams* # 2 cover at this point. This one is one of my faves. It's interesting without being too flashy.


DARKCHYLDE
This is how the train shot on page 2 and 3 had its humble beginnings...
These are some layout roughs for that 'other' dynamic duo... Flatulence and Baby Boo! The Baby Boo Shot was used on page five of this very issue!
Here is a sketch for the new 'ARIEL' mini-bust that we are doing. I liked the design so much that it toured double duty as an alternate cover for *Dreams of the Darkchylde* #1

DARKCHYLDE
REDEMPTION
#1 $2.95
$4.38 CAN



ACT 1:
HER FAVORITE THING

Randy Queen
Creator, Writer, Pencils.

Brett Evans
Colors.

Sarah Oates
Inks, Design, Publisher.

For
DARKCHYLDE
ENTERTAINMENT
Randy Queen
Sarah Oates

UP TO SPEED:

Ariel Chylde discovered that she can become monsters. Any monster from her many recurring nightmares, actually. And it's not by choice. The catch is, when she becomes Ariel again, these creatures are set free in our world. Ariel met a boy named Perry; Ariel liked Perry. Ariel in her creature form accidentally killed Perry's dad;Jack. Ariel burned down half the town of Salem. GA and Perry sent her packing. Ariel hooked up with a wandering band of misfits in 'Jeremy Spencer's Carnival of Fools.' She fit right in. Until she found the dead body of a young boy with a note addressed to her, seemingly written by the killer. It read: 'I know who and what you are... and if you can catch me so will you. So far, it's been over 67 days, and Ariel's had no luck.

WWW.DARKCHYLDE.COM

DARKCHYLDE Redemption Number 1 February 2001. First Printing. Published by Darkchylde Entertainment 888 S. P.C.H. Suite #6243 Redondo Beach, CA 90277. $2.95 U.S./4.35 Canada. Darkchylde™, Darkchylde Redemption™ and related characters are TM and © 2000 Randy Queen and Darkchylde Entertainment. All rights reserved. Darkchylde, its logos, symbols, prominent characters featured in this issue the distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of Randy Queen. Any similarities to persons living or dead is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none if this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Randy Queen. Printed in Canada.

IT WAS FAR AND AWAY HER FAVORITE THING
SHE HAD SEEN IT AT HER GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE, LIKED IT, AND ASKED FOR IT. A REQUEST HER GRANDMOTHER WAS ONLY TOO HAPPY TO GRANT.
UNFORTUNATELY, CASSIE'S GRANDMOTHER PASSED AWAY SOON AFTER, AND EVERY TIME CASSIE LOOKED AT THE OLD MASK IT REMINDED HER OF HER GRANDMOTHER'S SMILE, SOFTLY SPOKEN BEDTIME STORIES, AND THE LEMON DROPS SHE GAVE HER EVERY SINGLE SUNNY SUNDAY AFTERNOON.
ONE NIGHT THE MASK SUDDENLY CAME LOOSE FROM IT'S PERCH ON CASSIE'S WALL, AND SHATTERED ON THE FLOOR.
CASSIE TRIED HER BEST TO GLUE IT BACK TOGETHER, BUT THOUGHT IT LOOKED SAD, FRACTURED AS IT WAS, AND HELD TOGETHER WITH GLUE.
BEING FAR AND AWAY HER FAVORITE THING, CASSIE WAS UNDERSTANDABLY DEVASTATED.
AND THAT'S WHY SHE WAS SO HAPPY TO WIN THIS PARTICULAR ONE TODAY AT JEREMY'S SPENCER'S CARNIVAL OF FOOLS.
WHAT A FUN DAY SHE HAD TODAY WHAT LUCK CASSIE HAD!
THE MASK WAS EERILY SIMILAR TO THE ONE THAT WAS BROKEN. IN FACT IT WAS ALMOST AN EXACT MATCH. WHAT INCREDIBLY GOOD FORTUNE!
AND AS CASSIE DES HAPPILY A EEP
IT WOULD ULTIMATELY SUFFER THE EXACT SAME FATE
TO BECOME SPLINTERED AND BROKEN ON YOUNG CASSIE'S FLOOR.

THE SOUND SEEMED TO COME FROM EVERYWHERE AT ONCE, AND WAS LOUDER THAN IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN
LOUDER THAN IT COULD HAVE *POSSIBLY* BEEN.
PERHAPS IT WAS CASSIE'S BROTHER PLAYING TRICKS
HER BROTHER HAD A TENDENCY TO LEAN TOWARDS THE CRUEL SIDE
ALWAYS PLAYING HURTFUL GAMES ALWAYS BEING MEANER THAN HE SHOULD EVER BE TO HIS YOUNGER, MUCH SMALLER SISTER
DANIEL IS THAT YOU?
THEN SHE SEES IT FOR THE SECOND TIME SHE SEES THE SAD, BROKEN MASK AT HER FEET

HOW COULD THIS HAVE HAPPENED? SHE MADE EXTRA SURE THE KNOT THAT HELD IT TO THE WALL THIS TIME WAS EXTRA TIGHT. SHE EVEN HAD HER MOTHER TAKE A LOOK, JUST TO BE SAFE
NO CHANCE. THERE WAS NO CHANCE IT COULD FALL AND BE BROKEN AGAIN. NOT THIS ONE
BUT IT DID. FOR WHATEVER REASON, IT DID.
HER AUDIENCE OF STUFFED THINGS STARE AT HER WITH WHAT MUST BE DEAD, EMPTY EYES; OFFERING NEITHER COMFORT OR CONCERN.
CASSIE HEARS ONE OF THEM WHISPER HER NAME
THE AIR CHANGES AND THERE IS A SUDDEN WARMTH IN THE ROOM THAT SIMPLY WAS NOT THERE BEFORE.
THERE IS A HISS, AND SOMETHING THAT SOUNDS LIKE AN ANIMAL, RATTLES AND SUCKS IN THE STAGNANT AIR.
IF SHADOWS COULD SHIFT AND MOVE, THEY DO

THERE IS BARELY TIME FOR A SWIFT, FINAL REALIZATION AS THE THING FROM THE DARK SWOOPS DOWN UPON CASSIE
SHE WOULD SEE HER GRANDMOTHER'S SMILE AGAIN SOON

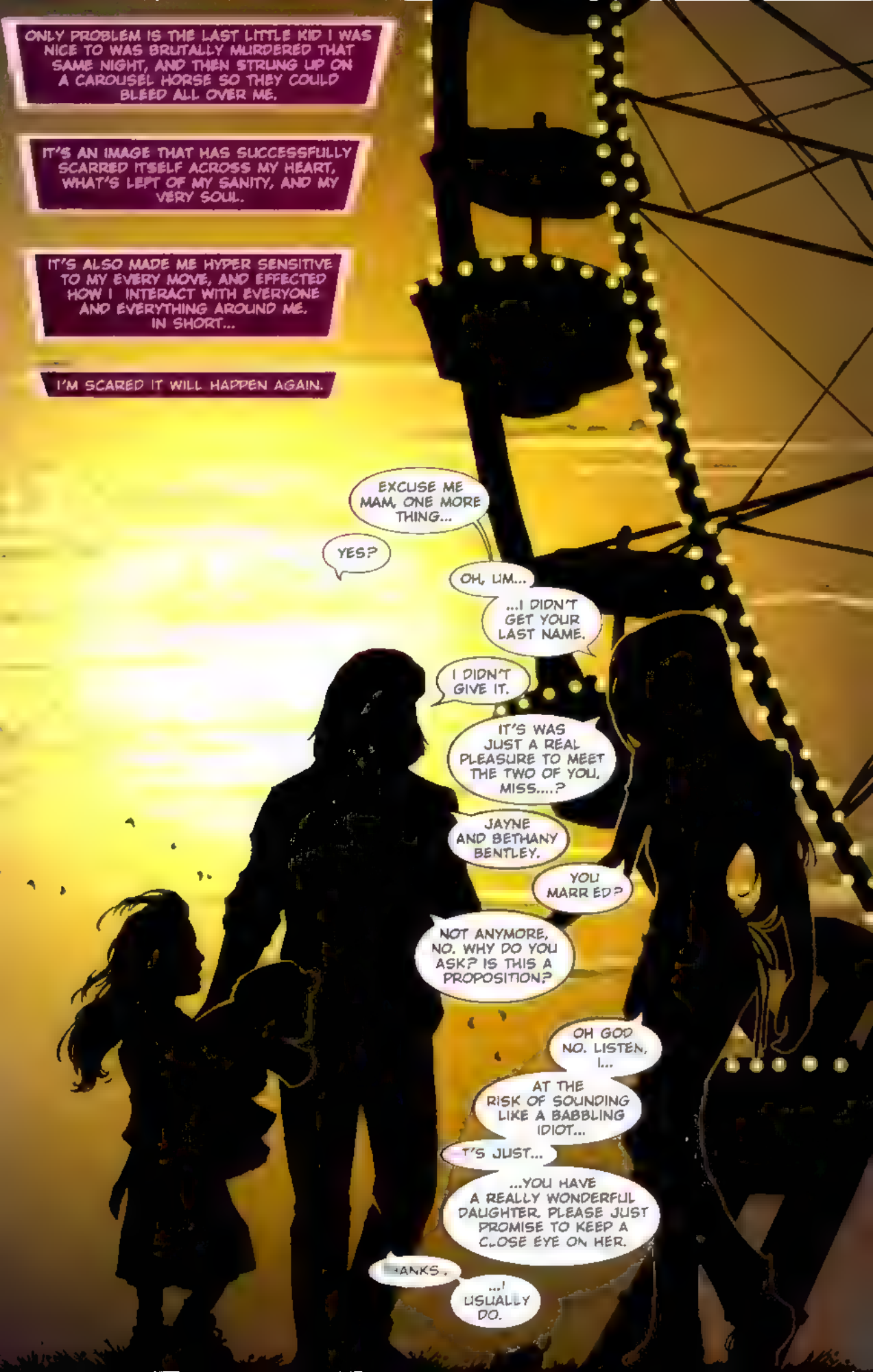
OHMYGOSH!! THEY'RE THE COOLEST!
King Kong

JEREMY SPENCER'S ARRIVAL OF FOOL
WAR
WHERE KIDS OF ALL AGES ARE TREATED TO A SPECTACULAR NEW EXCLUSIVE THE EIGTH AND NINTH WONDERS OF THE WORLD RESPECTIVELY
HEY, KID. COOL SHIRT.
KING KONG
CHARLES GRODIN WAS GREAT IN THAT MOVIE. "LOOKATTAT EXXON CAMPAIGN, "WE'LL PUT A TIGER IN YOUR TANK...." IT DID ZILLIONS WITH JUSSA PAPER TIGER!!!"
HUH?
NEVERMIND.
HEY, "SON OF KONG", IF YOU GIVE ME THE REST OF THAT ICE CREAM I'LL LET YOU IN ON A LITTLE SECRET
OKAY
THE "LUCKY DUCK" GIRL CAN TURN INTO MONSTERS!
HAHA! MONSTERS AREN'T REA..!
DON'T LOOK NOW, BUT YOU'RE HAVING A CONVERSATION WITH ONE, JUNIOR.

I SWEAR TO YOU...
I WAS ONLY KIDDING ABOUT THE THE WHOLE "DUCK GIRL" THING.
BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU WISH FOR, RIGHT?"
IT'S BEEN OVER A WEEK NOW, AND EVERY DUCK IS NOT A WINNER. I'VE COME TO FIND OUT.
SO HERE I AM, WAITING FOR MY STALKER TO REAPPEAR, WORKING IN A SIDESHOW CARNIVAL TO TRY AND PAY OFF SOME OF THE DAMAGE MY NIGHTMARE "ALTER EGO" CAUSED.
AND AT WHAT THEY'RE PAYING ME, I FIGURE WE CAN "CALL IT EVEN" SOMETIME JUST AFTER I TURN FORTY.
I'VE GOTTEN MORE THAN SICK OF THE CONSTANT SMELL OF COTTON CANDY, AND I'M ABOUT AS FAR AS YOU CAN GET FROM ANYTHING RESEMBLING HOME INTERNALLY BY EXTERNALLY.
BEAR WITH ME
MONSTER
NOTHING MUCH HAS HAPPENED, IF YOU DISCOUNT MY HANDS BEETING SHRIVELED FROM DIPPING THEM INTO THE WATER ALL DAY, OR THE CALLUSES I'VE EARNED FROM STANDING ON MY FEET ALL DAY.
TICKETS
TICKETS
DUCK
NO, NOTHING MUCH HAS HAPPENED, BUT THE HAIRS ON THE BACK OF MY NECK HAVE BEEN STANDING UP ALL DAY LIKE MAYBE SOMETHING WIL-
THAT AND I WOKE UP WITH STOMACH CRAMPS THAT HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH NATURE.
SOMETHING BAD IS VERY AWARE THAT I AM HERE.

YOU'RE PRETTY
THAT'S FUNNY...
I WAS JUST THINKING THE SAME EXACT THING ABOUT YOU!!
REALLY?!?
ABSOLUTELY! WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
BETHANY! AND TODAY IS MY BIRTHDAY!!!
OH WOW! WELL, HAPPY BIRTHDAY YOU! YOU WANNA TRY YOUR HAND WITH A "LUCKY DUCK??" IT'S ON ME.
MOMMY CAN I?
JUST PICK A GOOD ONE!
AWWWWWW. IT SAYS "YOU LOSE!"
YOU SURE ABOUT THAT? LET ME SEE?
YOU LOSE
THAT'S FUNNY.
NOW IT SAYS "BIRTHDAY GIRL BETHANY GETS HER CHOICE OF ANY OF OUR WONDERFUL STUFFED ANIMALS!!"
PRETTY WILD HUH?!?
YOU LOSE

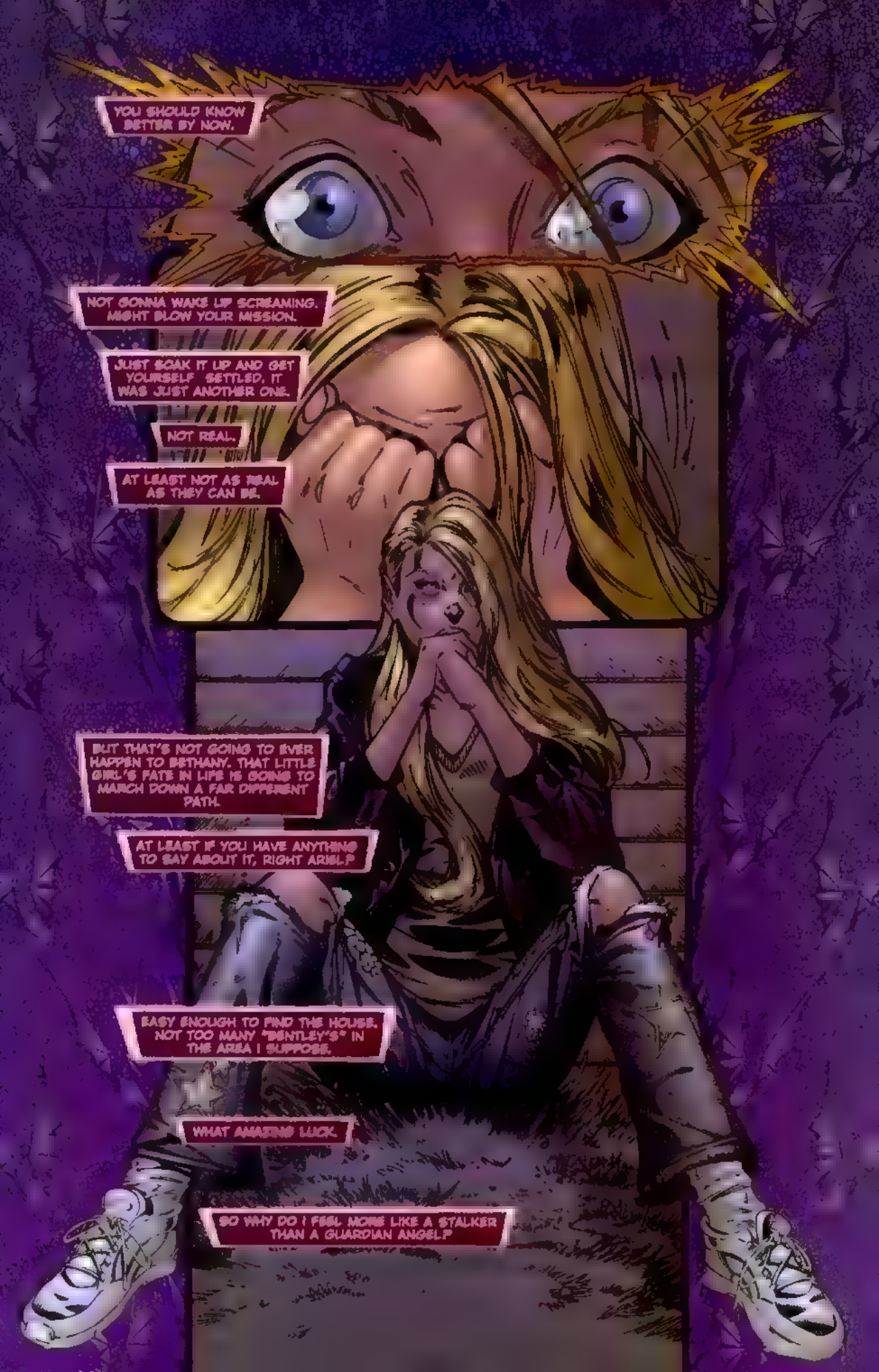
CAN I GET THE BIG POLA BEAR??
YOU GOT IT SWEETY...
ONE "POLA" BEAR COMING RIGHT UP!!!
THERE YOU GO!
WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THE NICE LADY?
THANK YOU NICE LADY!
CALL ME ARIEL, AND YOU'RE WELCOME!!! YOU BETTER HAVE FUN TODAY BETHANY, OR I'M GONNA CALL THE 'HAPPINESS POLICE' ON YOU!
I THINK YOU JUST MADE HER DAY. THANK YOU FOR BEING SO NICE A LITTLE KINDNESS GOES A LONG WAY
BELIEVE ME, I KNOW.


ONLY PROBLEM IS THE LAST LITTLE KID I WAS NICE TO WAS BRUTALLY MURDERED THAT SAME NIGHT, AND THEN STRUNG UP ON A CAROUSEL HORSE SO THEY COULD BLEED ALL OVER ME.
IT'S AN IMAGE THAT HAS SUCCESSFULLY SCARRED ITSELF ACROSS MY HEART, WHAT'S LEFT OF MY SANITY, AND MY VERY SOUL.
IT'S ALSO MADE ME HYPER SENSITIVE TO MY EVERY MOVE, AND EFFECTED HOW I INTERACT WITH EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING AROUND ME. IN SHORT...
I'M SCARED IT WILL HAPPEN AGAIN.
EXCUSE ME MAM, ONE MORE THING...
YES?
OH, UM...
...I DIDN'T GET YOUR LAST NAME.
I DIDN'T GIVE IT.
IT'S WAS JUST A REAL PLEASURE TO MEET THE TWO OF YOU, MISS....?
JAYNE AND BETHANY BENTLEY.
YOU MARR ED?
NOT ANYMORE, NO. WHY DO YOU ASK? IS THIS A PROPOSITION?
OH GOD NO. LISTEN, I...
AT THE RISK OF SOUNDING LIKE A BABBLING IDIOT...
T'S JUST...
...YOU HAVE A REALLY WONDERFUL DAUGHTER. PLEASE JUST PROMISE TO KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON HER.
ANKS.
...I USUALLY DO.

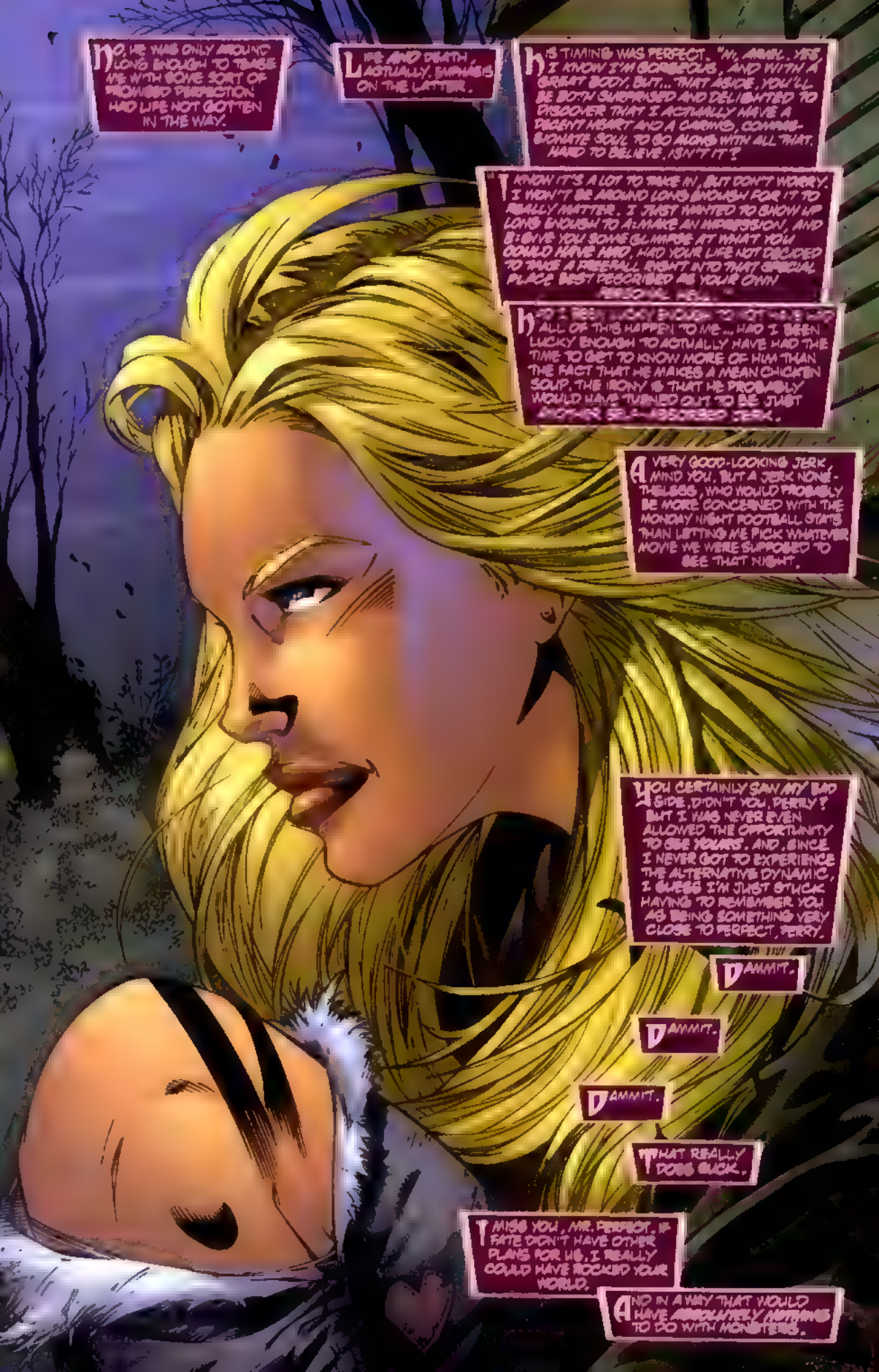
PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS, KID?
FROM WHERE I'M STANDING YOU LOOK A LITTLE FRAYED AT THE SEAMS... KINDA JUST LIKE THOSE BLUE JEANS YOU SEEM TO LOVE SO MUCH.
I AM FRAYED, LOVESORROW.
WHY WOULDN'T BE?!?
YOU BEEN WAITING ALL THIS TIME FOR DISASTER TO STRIKE AGAIN, ARIEL? I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT BEING VERY HEALTHY.
WHAT IS?
IF MAKING A TOTAL FOOL OUT OF MYSELF DOES ANYTHING AT ALL TO KEEP THOSE KIDS SAFER, WELL...
...THAT I CAN LIVE WITH.
JUST SEE THAT YOU DON'T LOSE YOUR 'FACULTIES' IN THE PROCESS.
I LOST MY FACULTIES LAST APRIL.
IS THAT WHEN YOU FIRST FOUND OUT YOU COULD...
YES.
YOU KNOW KID, YOU MIGHT NOT BELIEVE ME, BUT THE SUN WILL SHINE AGAIN. YOU'VE JUST GOT SOME CLOUDS IN THE WAY JUST NOW.
THEY'LL HANG AROUND LONG ENOUGH SO THAT YOU'LL START TO THINK THEY AIN'T EVER GONNA LEAVE, BUT THEY WILL.
THEY'LL PASS.
YOU'RE RIGHT
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU.

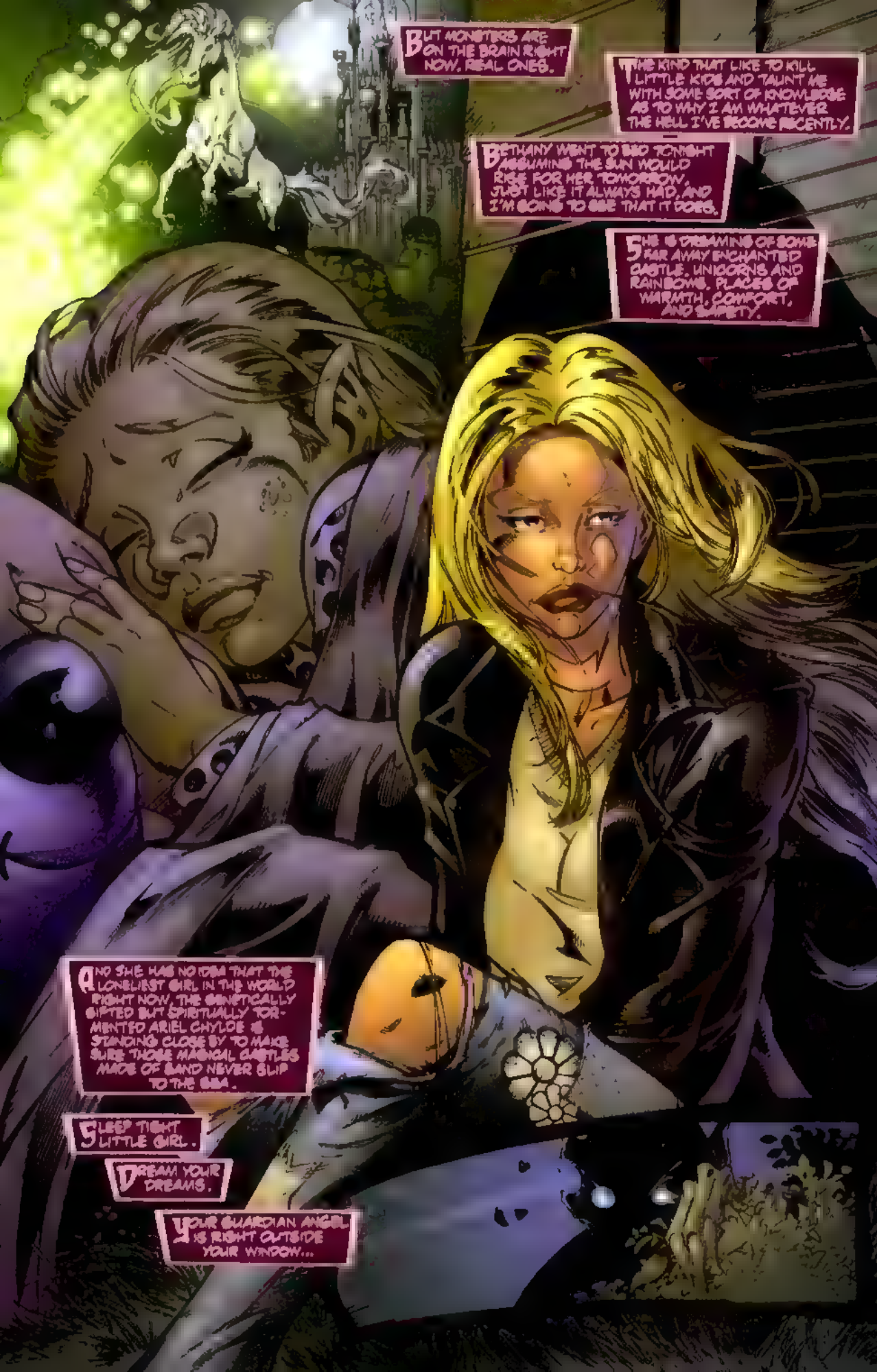
I CAN'T CATCH HER.
SHE'S MOVING TOO DAMN FAST. DISSOLVING AHEAD OF ME, IN AND OUT OF THE SHADOWS LIKE IRON QUICKSILVER.
STOP RUNNING BETHANY.
STOP RUNNING BECAUSE...
I ONLY WANT TO HELP YOU!! PLEASE WAIT!!
STAY AWAY FROM ME! YOU ARE EVIL!!
EVERY-WHERE YOU GO THE MONSTERS COME!
NO, KILEY...
I'M TRYING TO SAVE YOU FROM THEM!!
PLEASE...!!
I CALLED HER KILEY. AS FAST AS SHE'S BARRELING THROUGH THE WOODS AHEAD OF ME, IT'S NO WONDER I MADE THE CONNECTION TO MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND.
I COULD NEVER CATCH HER EITHER. I COULDN'T CATCH HER AND I COULDN'T SAVE HER.
I COULDN'T SAVE HER FROM THE NIGHT-MARES IN THE FOREST THAT OPENED UP AND SWALLOWED HER WHOLE.
SOMEBODY SOMEWHERE HAS A NASTY APPRECIATION FOR HISTORY.
NO!!!
BETHANY

KRAMBL
I'VE SEEN A LOT IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS, BUT I NEVER ONCE THOUGHT THE DEVIL WAS REAL. NEVER ONCE.
THAT JUST CHANGED.
YOU CAN'T SAVE THEM, ARIEL!!!!
YOU CAN'T EVEN SAVE YOURSELF!!!! YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO DID THIS TO YOU, DO YOU?!? YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE...
LEAVE THEM ALONE YOU BASTARD!! IF IT'S ME YOU WANT, I'M RIGHT HERE!!!!
OH REST ASSURED, YOUNG ONE...
...I'LL SAVE ROOM FOR YOU.
I'LL KILL YOU!!!


YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER BY NOW.
NOT GONNA WAKE UP SCREAMING. MIGHT BLOW YOUR MISSION.
JUST SOAK IT UP AND GET YOURSELF SETTLED. IT WAS JUST ANOTHER ONE.
NOT REAL.
AT LEAST NOT AS REAL AS THEY CAN BE.
BUT THAT'S NOT GOING TO EVER HAPPEN TO BETHANY. THAT LITTLE GIRL'S FATE IN LIFE IS GOING TO MARCH DOWN A FAR DIFFERENT PATH.
AT LEAST IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT IT, RIGHT ARIEL?
EASY ENOUGH TO FIND THE HOUSE. NOT TOO MANY "BENTLEY'S" IN THE AREA I SUPPOSE.
WHAT AMAZING LUCK.
SO WHY DO I FEEL MORE LIKE A STALKER THAN A GUARDIAN ANGEL?

AS I LOOK AT MY DIRTY HANDS AND TRY TO IGNORE THE DISCOMFORTING SOUNDS MY STOMACH IS MAKING, MY MIND STARTS TO DRIFT.
AND AS IT OFTEN DOES, IT DRIFTS TO THOUGHT OF HIM.
DAMMIT. GO AHEAD, ARIEL. SAY HIS NAME.
FUNNY THING ABOUT FEELINGS. YOU CAN SHUT THEM AWAY, OCCUPY YOUR MIND WITH OTHER THINGS, BUT EVENTUALLY THEY WILL REMIND YOU THEY ARE STILL THERE. A SIGHT OR A SMELL WILL BRING THEM RIGHT OUT OF THE BASEMENT OF YOUR MEMORIES.
WHY IS IT WE WANT THE MOST WHAT WE CANNOT HAVE?
WHO'S CRUEL IDEA WAS IT TO BUILD US LIKE THAT, ANYWAY? WE MUST BE THE ULTIMATE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE DIVINE POWERS. THEIR VERSION OF TV. THERE'S A THOUGHT FOR...
I MEAN, YEAH, I'M DIFFERENT THAN MOST GIRLS IN THE SENSE THAT THERE LIFE ISN'T *LITERALLY* A LIVING *HELL*. AND, SURE, EVERY DAY I LOSE A LITTLE MORE OF THE SCRAPS OF SANITY I'VE BEEN ABLE TO KID MYSELF THAT I STILL HAVE.
BUT I'M JUST LIKE EVERY OTHER GIRL IN THE SENSE THAT, WELL...
...WHAT GIRL WOULDN'T WANT TO HAVE SOME BEAUTIFUL, ATHLETIC, AND GOOD HEARTED GUY CLOSE BY? SOMEONE TO HOLD. SOMEONE WHO KNOWS JUST THE RIGHT THINGS TO SAY. SOMEONE WHO COULD CONVINCE YOU THAT THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NOTHING IN THE WORLD YOU COULDN'T TACKLE AND OVERCOME, EVEN IF HE REALLY DIDN'T BELIEVE IT HIMSELF.
PERRY. I'M BUILDING HIM UP TO BE SOME KIND OF MR. PERFECT. I NEVER REALLY GOT TO KNOW HIM.
THE AWFUL TRUTH IS THAT WE ARE FAR CLOSER IN MY MIND THAN WE EVER WERE IN REALITY.

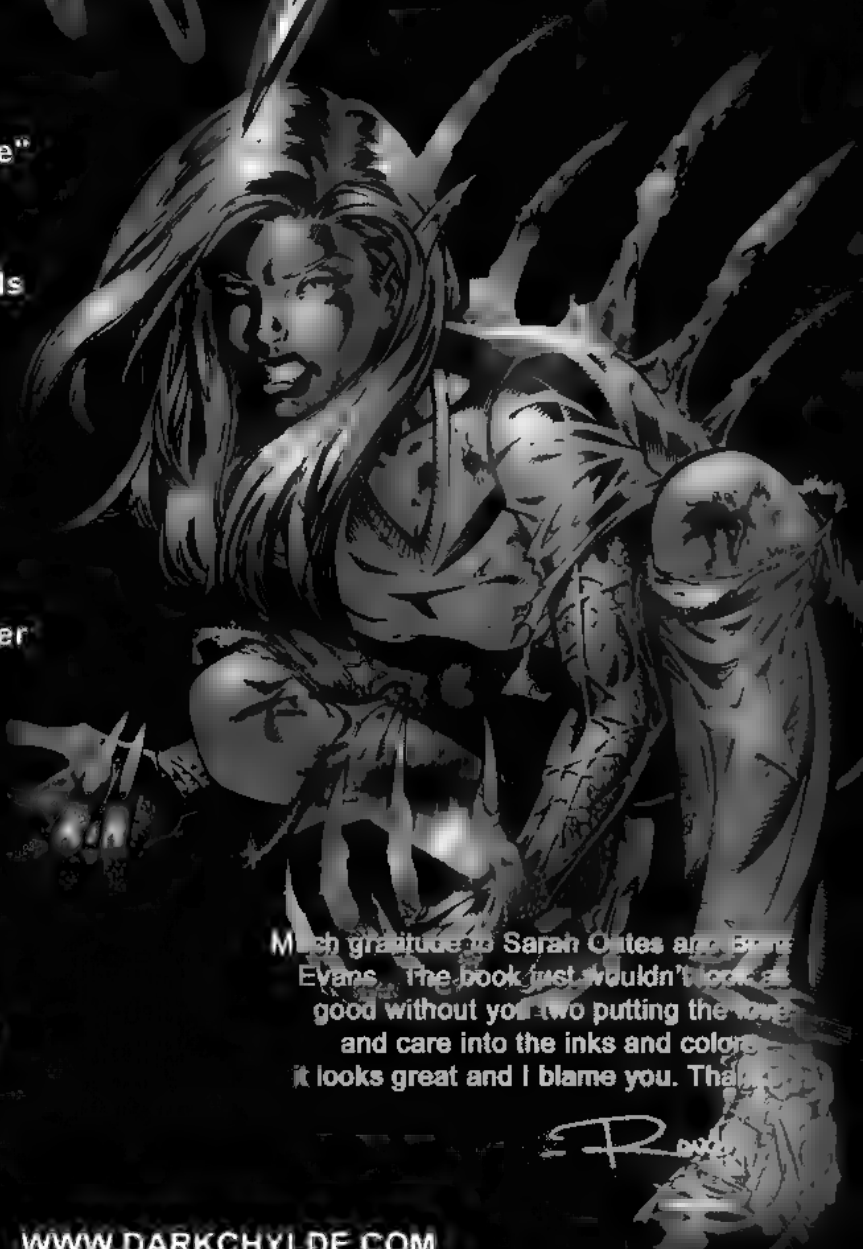

No. He was only around long enough to tease me with some sort of promised prediction. Had life not gotten in the way.
Life. And death. Actually, emphasis on the latter.
His timing was perfect. "Mr. Angel. Yes, I know I'm gorgeous. And with a great body. But... That aside, you'll be both surprised and delighted to discover that I actually have a mighty heart and a caring, compassionate soul to go along with all that. Hard to believe, isn't it?
I know it's a lot to take in, but don't worry. I won't be around long enough for it to really matter. I just wanted to show up long enough to 1: make an impression, and 2: give you some glimpse at what you could have had, had your life not decided to take a fireball straight into that special place best described as your own [illegible].
So I [illegible] to not have all of this happen to me... Had I been lucky enough to actually have had the time to get to know more of him than the fact that he makes a mean chicken soup. The irony is that he probably would have turned out to be just another self-absorbed jerk.
A very good-looking jerk, mind you. But a jerk nonetheless, who would probably be more concerned with the Monday night football stats than letting me pick whatever movie we were supposed to see that night.
You certainly saw my bad side, didn't you, Perry? But I was never even allowed the opportunity to see yours. And, since I never got to experience the alternative dynamic, I guess I'm just stuck having to remember you as being something very close to perfect, Perry.
Dammit.
Dammit.
Dammit.
That really does suck.
I miss you, Mr. Perfect. If fate didn't have other plans for us, I really could have rocked your world.
And in a way that would have absolutely, positively nothing to do with monsters.


BUT MONSTERS ARE ON THE BRAIN RIGHT NOW. REAL ONES.
THE KIND THAT LIKE TO KILL LITTLE KIDS AND TAUNT ME WITH SOME SORT OF KNOWLEDGE AS TO WHY I AM WHATEVER THE HELL I'VE BECOME RECENTLY.
BETHANY WENT TO BED TONIGHT ASSUMING THE SUN WOULD RISE FOR HER TOMORROW, JUST LIKE IT ALWAYS HAD, AND I'M GOING TO SEE THAT IT DOES.
SHE IS DREAMING OF SOME FAR AWAY ENCHANTED CASTLE. UNICORNS AND RAINBOWS. PLACES OF WARMTH, COMFORT, AND SAFETY.
AND SHE HAS NO IDEA THAT THE LONELIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD RIGHT NOW, THE MYSTICALLY GIFTED BUT SPIRITUALLY TORMENTED ARIEL CHYLDE IS STANDING CLOSE BY TO MAKE SURE THOSE MAGICAL CASTLES MADE OF SAND NEVER SLIP TO THE SEA.
SLEEP TIGHT LITTLE GIRL.
DREAM YOUR DREAMS.
YOUR GUARDIAN ANGEL IS RIGHT OUTSIDE YOUR WINDOW...

AND THE DEVIL HIMSELF COULDN'T PULL ME AWAY.
TO BE CONTINUED

DARKBLADE
REDEMPTION
#2 $2.95

DARKCHYLDE
REDEMPTION



CHAPTER 2:
"The devil and his due"

RANDY QUEEN
Creator, Writer, Pencils

BRETT EVANS
Colors

SARAH OATES
Inks, Design, Publisher

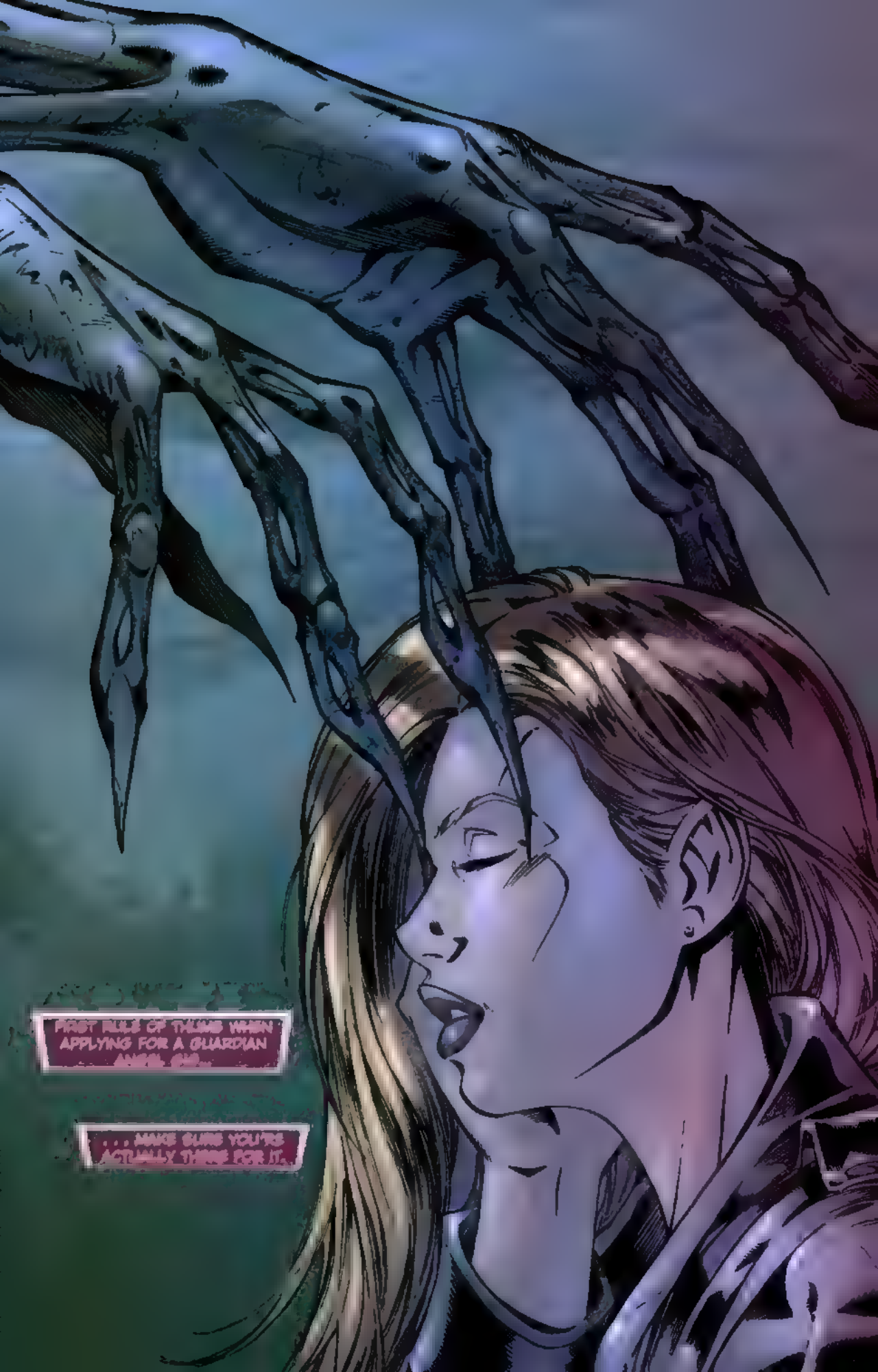
OUCHIE BUNNY
Moral Support

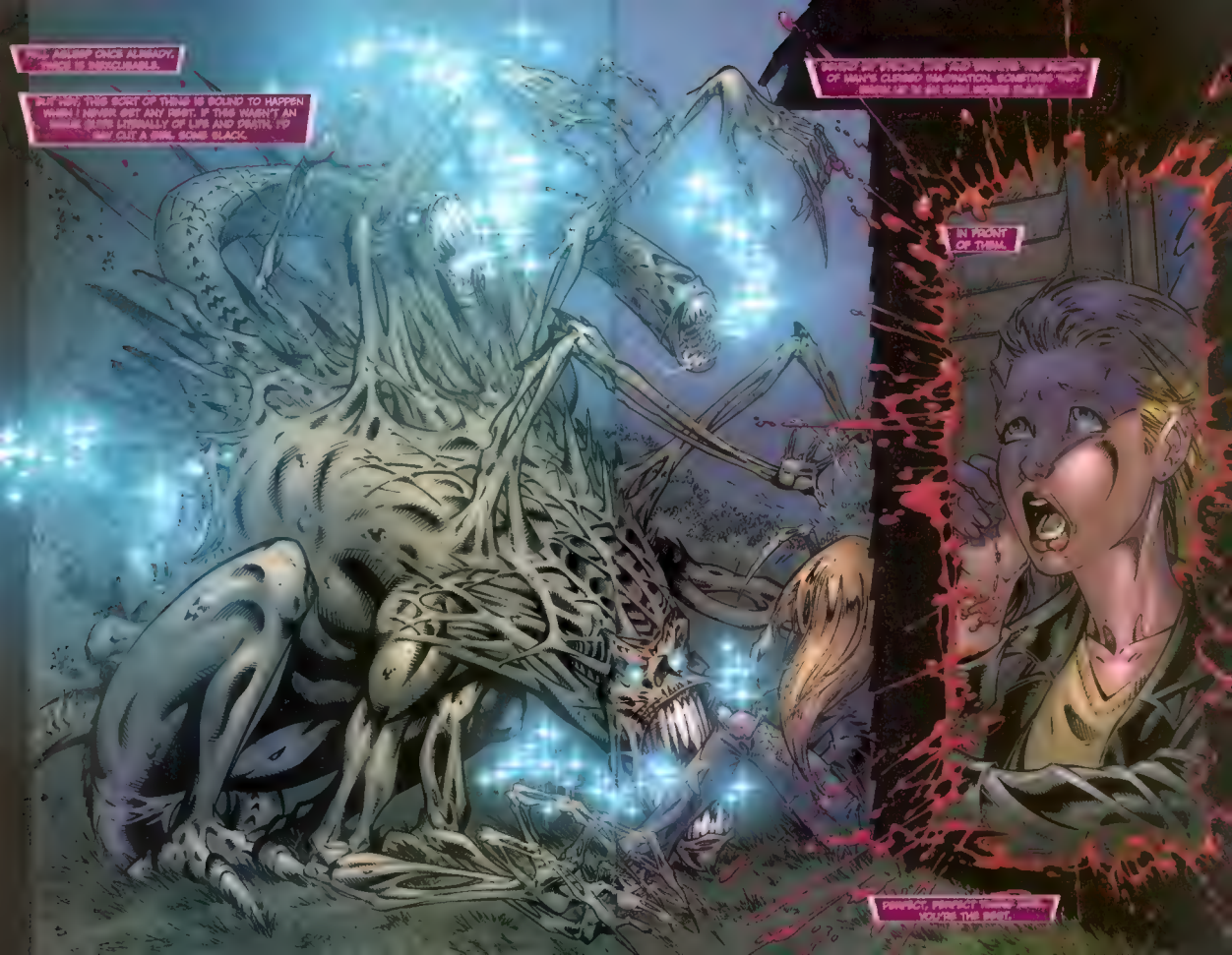
For
DARKCHYLDE
ENTERTAINMENT
Randy Queen
Sarah Oates

Much gratitude to Sarah Oates and Brett Evans. The book just wouldn't look as good without you two putting the love and care into the inks and colors. It looks great and I blame you. Thank

WWW.DARKCHYLDE.COM

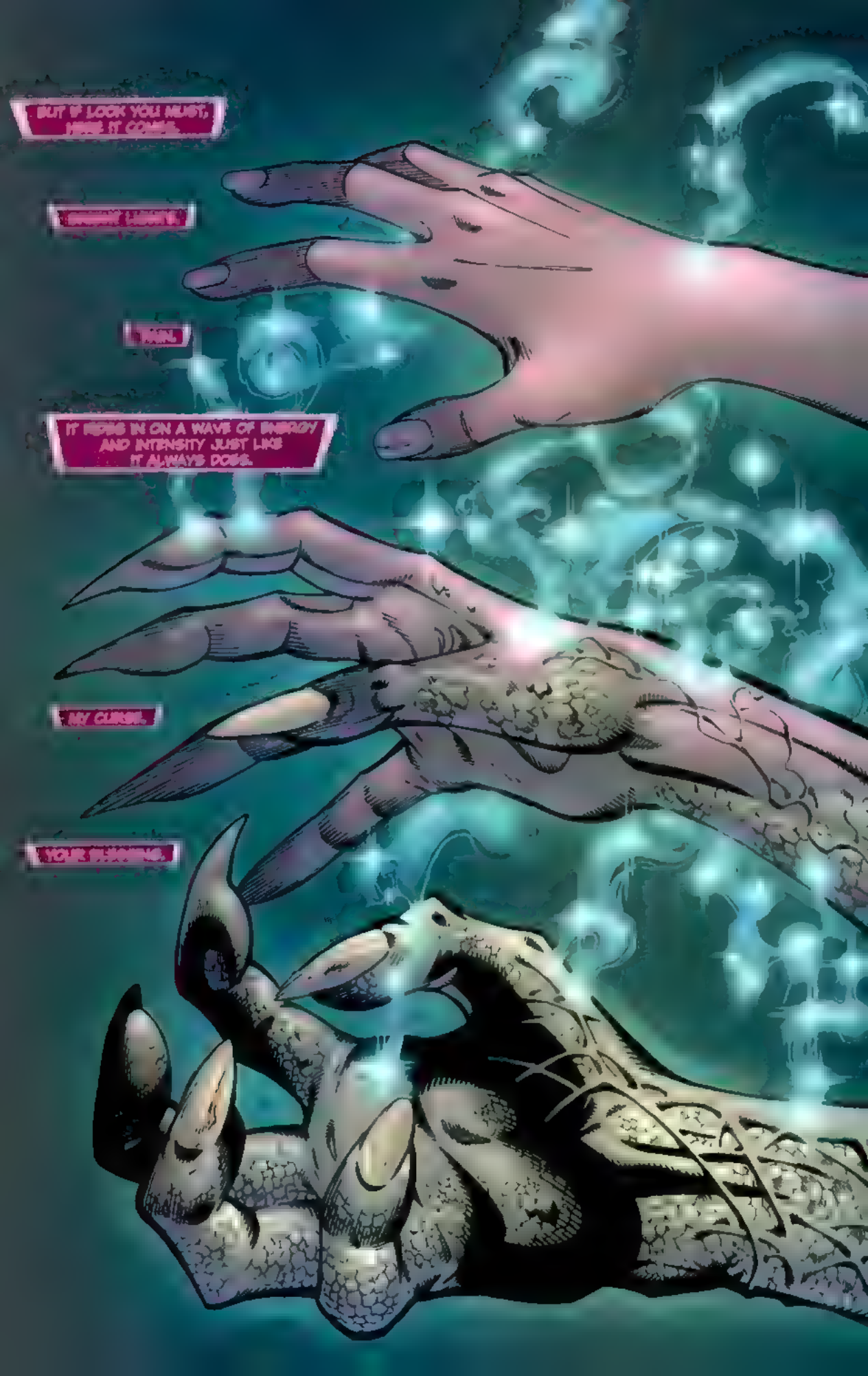
Darkchylde Redemption #2 December 2001. First printing. Published by Darkchylde Entertainment. 425 S. Catalina Ave. #1 Redondo Beach, CA 90277. $2.95 U.S./$4.38 Canada. Darkchylde™, Darkchylde Redemption™, and related characters are ™ and © 2001 Randy Queen and Darkchylde Entertainment. All Rights Reserved. Darkchylde, its logos, symbols, prominent characters in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of Randy Queen. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. Printed in Canada.

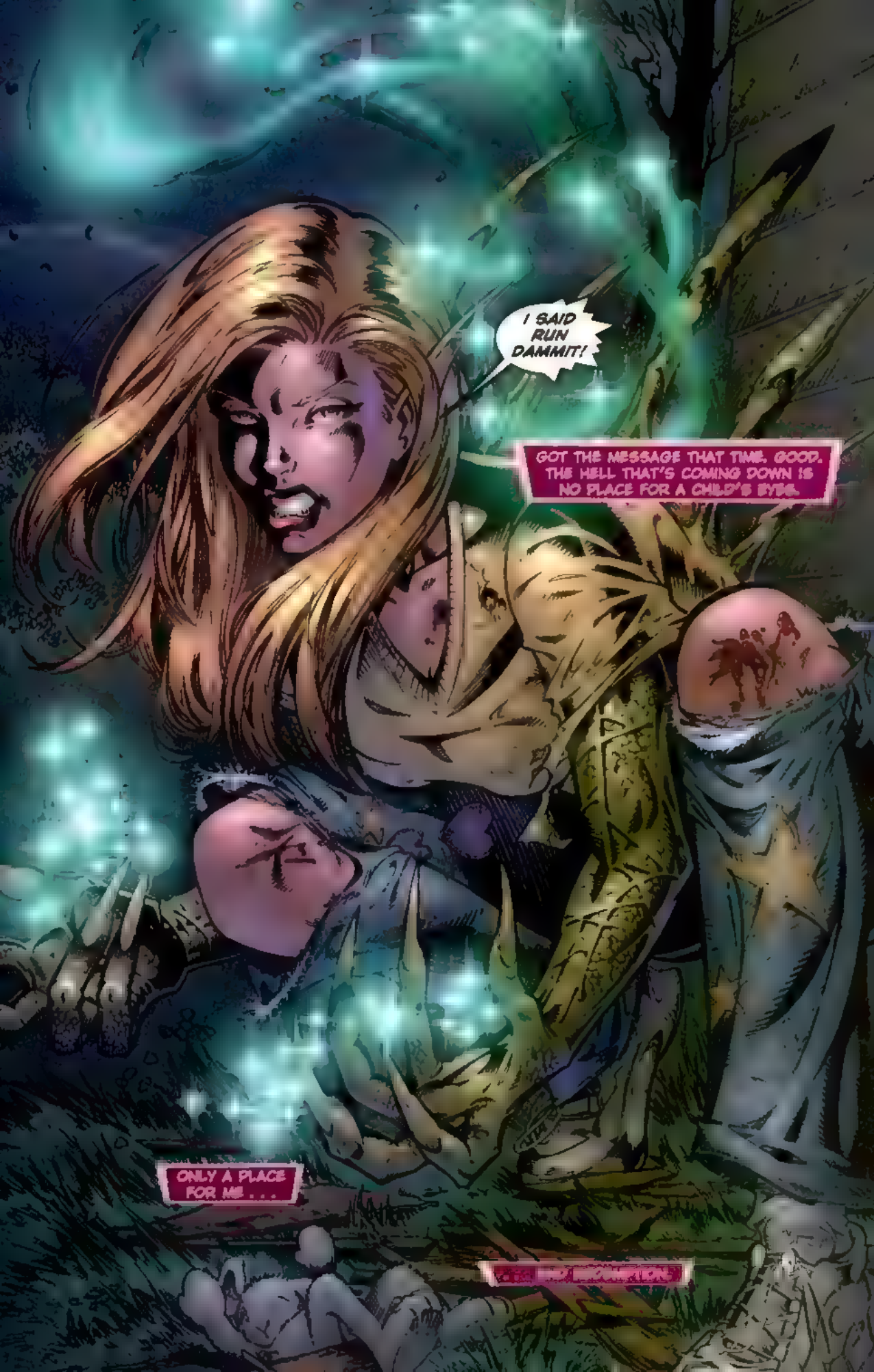

FIRST RULE OF THUMB WHEN APPLYING FOR A GUARDIAN ANGEL...
...MAKES SURE YOU'RE ACTUALLY DYING FOR IT.


I'VE ALMOST ONCE ALREADY.
DEATH IS INEVITABLE.
BUT HEY, THIS SORT OF THING IS BOUND TO HAPPEN WHEN I NEVER GET ANY REST. IF TIME WASN'T AN ISSUE, BEING LITERALLY OF LIFE AND DEATH, I'D PROBABLY TAKE MY CUE A SMALL BOOKS BLACK.
OF MAN'S CLEARLY IMAGINATION. SOMETHING THAT
IN FRONT OF THEM.
PERFECT. PERFECT. YOU'RE THE BEST.

THAT GIRL FREAKING OUT RIGHT NOW IS BETHANY. I HAD A SNEAKY SUSPICION THAT SHE WOULD BE TARGETED AND THAT THE CHILD KILLER "SILENCER" WOULD SHOW ITSELF AGAIN.
WELL, YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHING YET LITTLE GIRL. SUBTLETY IS A STRANGER TONIGHT, AND IT'S BALLS TO THE WALLS INSANITY, YOU CAN COUNT ON IT.
KRSHUSHH!
IF YOU HAD A BET THAT THINGS WOULD GET NASTY YOU'D BE THE BIG WINNER.
DON'T LOOK BACK!
BETHANY! GET YOUR MOTHER AND RUN!
I'VE BEEN WAITING A LONG TIME FOR THIS.

THIS IS DEATH AT WORK AND IT'S SOMETHING I'D REALLY RATHER YOU NOT SEE.

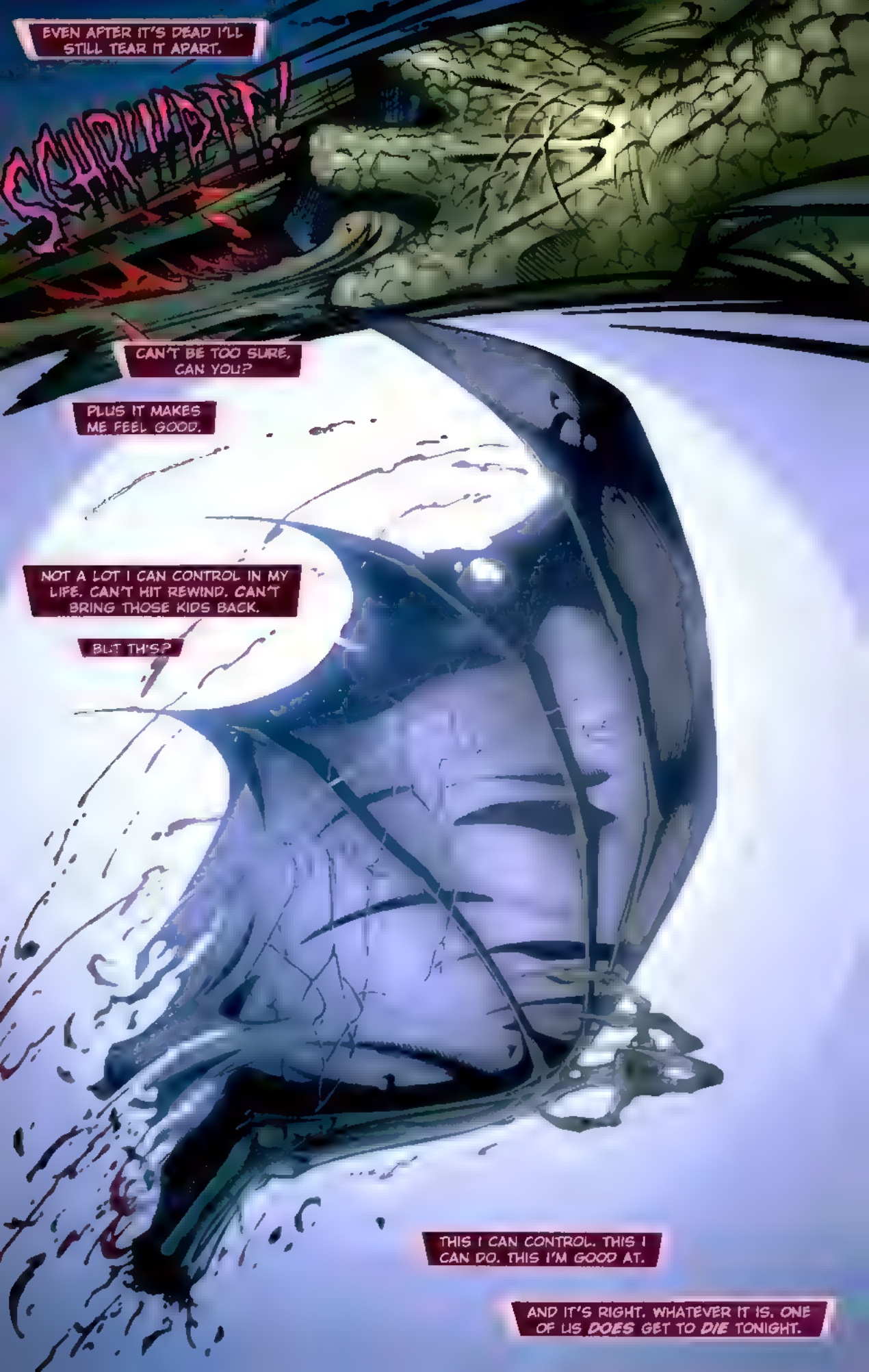

BUT IF LOOK YOU MUST, HERE IT COMES.
SHARP HORNS.
MAN.
IT RISES IN ON A WAVE OF ENERGY AND INTENSITY JUST LIKE IT ALWAYS DOES.
MY CURSE.
YOU'RE DRAWING.


I SAID RUN DAMMIT!
GOT THE MESSAGE THAT TIME, GOOD. THE HELL THAT'S COMING DOWN IS NO PLACE FOR A CHILD'S EYES.
ONLY A PLACE FOR ME . . .

ABOUT TIME YOU SHOWED YOURSELF YOU FREAKIN' COWARD!
YESSSSSSS AT LAST WE DANCE, MY ARIEL!!!!!!
AND ONE OF US GETS TO DIE!
ARRRGGH!
SKURKDTT!
SKWOK!

THAT WOULD BE YOU!!
PROMISES. I DON'T THINK YOU'VE GOT ANY BALLS!
DON'T HAVE EM.
WON'T NEED 'EM.
CRASH!!!
NICE MOVE DADDY LONG LEGS! DODGED CERTAIN DEATH FOR SURE!
YOU LIKE THAT ONE?
CHECK THIS OUT IT'S EVEN BETTER!
SHRIPPT!!

KEEPS SHIFTING AND MORPHING. WHAT IS THIS THING?!?
WINGS THIS TIME. COOL.
MORE SHIT FOR ME TO RIP AND SLASH INTO. THROW IT AT ME, I DON'T CARE.
'CAUSE I'LL BE DAMNED *AGAIN* BEFORE I'LL LET THIS THING WALK AWAY FROM ME BREATHING.


EVEN AFTER IT'S DEAD I'LL STILL TEAR IT APART.
SCHRUPP!!
CAN'T BE TOO SURE, CAN YOU?
PLUS IT MAKES ME FEEL GOOD.
NOT A LOT I CAN CONTROL IN MY LIFE. CAN'T HIT REWIND. CAN'T BRING THOSE KIDS BACK.
BUT TH'S?
THIS I CAN CONTROL. THIS I CAN DO. THIS I'M GOOD AT.
AND IT'S RIGHT. WHATEVER IT IS. ONE OF US *DOES* GET TO *DIE* TONIGHT.

ARIEL!!
YOU'RE FINALLY STARTING TO HURT ME, BABY!!! BUT I WILL EAT THEM UP FOREVER AS I HAVE FOR CENTURIES AND YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO STOP THAT!!!
JEREMY?!?!
THEIR YOUNG SOULS KEEP ME THE IMMORTAL CHILD, ARIEL! NEVER AROUND LONG ENOUGH TO GET CAUGHT. THE NOMADIC "SILENCER" OF YOUTH... HE AND HIS SILLY LITTLE "CARNIVAL OF FOOLS"!
WHAT THE- ?!? WHAT IS THIS-- ?!
YOU DON'T KNOW? BEEN TRYING TO TELL YOU ALL NIGHT, SEXY. IT'S DEATH.
COME AND GET SOME.
YOU SHUT YOUR MOUTH LITTLE BOY...

...YOU'RE DONE!!
I FIGURE THIS THING HAS TO HAVE A BRAIN, AND IF IT HAS A BRAIN IT CAN BE SHOCKED.
FORCEFULLY. SHELP DON'T LET THE BLONDE HAIR FOOL YOU.
SLASH
HRRR!
...GOOD... ...GIRL...
...I KNEW... YOU'D BE THE ONE. EVEN... IMMORTALS...
...GROW WEARY OF THIS WORLD, ARIEL. A DEAL...WITH A DEVIL... MADE ME YOUNG FOREVER... NEVER COUNTED... THAT THE YEARS OF KILLING... THE VERY YOUTH THAT I COVETED ...WOULD DRIVE ME MAD... MORE MAD, I SHOULD SAY...
YOU'VE... SET ME FREE... TONIGHT. AND ONE OF US... GETS TO DIE...
YOU LEFT A NOTE ON A BOY SAYING I WOULD KNOW WHO CURSED ME IF I FOUND YOU. P.P.
...YESSSS.
YOUR... MOTHER... ARIEL. HER AND KAULDRON...
...ARE THE ONES TO... BLAME FOR YOUR INSANITY.

THEY... DID THIS... TO YOU! POISONED YOU... WHILE YOU WERE STILL... IN THE WOMB...
AT LEAST... YOU GOT ME. FEEL... GOOD.... ABOUT.... THAT MUCH --
ARIEL...
...YOU SET US FREE, ARIEL...
...YOU ARE OUR ETERNAL SAVIOR...
....AND YOU WILL HAVE OUR ETERNAL GRATITUDE.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU, ARIEL.
THANK YOU!
ARIEL!!!!

COME QUICK!
JEREMY'S MISSING FROM THE CARNIVAL!
WE'RE WORRIED SOMETHING BAD IS COMING DOWN!

YOU WERE RIGHT TO WORRY.
TO BE CONCLUDED